

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SHERIDAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Board met at 9:05 a.m., January 20, 2009, in regular session at the Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library, Sheridan, Wyoming. Chairman Rolston called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present were Commissioners Steve Maier, Mike Nickel, Tom Ringley and Robert L. Rolston. Commissioner Terry Cram was absent.

AGENDA

The Board approved the agenda as published, amended to also consider County support of a DeSmet Gasification, LLC proposal to the University of Wyoming.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Rolston announced that:

The Board is working on setting a date for a dedication ceremony to designate the Wallop Terminal Building at the Airport, which is in recognition of Senator Wallop's many achievements.

A 75th anniversary of air mail service to Sheridan County's Airport will be observed this summer and members are needed for the Planning Committee. Hanley Cohn, whose father was the pilot of the first plane delivering mail to Sheridan, has generously donated funds for this celebration. Edre Maier, Dale Hall and Bruce Garber are on the committee now, and persons interested in serving should call the Commission office at 674-2900.

There are two openings on the Sheridan County Fair Association for unexpired terms running to 01-03-2011 and 01-02-2012. The Board will accept applications until February 3, 2009. Applications may be found on the County's website at www.sheridancounty.com.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Merlin and Lori Zowada requested the Board take action to grant them a temporary access to their business. Lori Zowada stated that the Findings of Fact issued by the Board did not grant them a time frame in which to build a road and the access to keep their business running. She said Engineering, Inc. had been retained, and they had been told that a road could not be built until late spring. She commented on the importance of their business to the community. Chairman Rolston said the matter would be taken under consideration.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the Consent Agenda as read and authorized the Chairman to sign documents as required. (a) Minutes of a regular session on January 6, 2009; (b) Affirm execution of lease agreements with Valley Motor Leasing, Inc.; Lease #639, 2009 Honda CR-V; Lease #640, 2009 Honda CR-V; (c) Affirm execution of lease agreements with B&B Leasing Company; Lease #1333, for three 2008 Trailblazers LS; (d) Official Bond and Oath, Mike Connell, Treasurer of Predator Management District of Sheridan County, \$50,000, term to expire January 1, 2010.

COAL GASIFICATION CENTER

The Board offered its support to a DeSmet Gasification LLC proposal which is to be submitted to the University of Wyoming. Dick Bratten, representing DeSmet Gasification, commented that the company would submit a proposal to site the planned High Plains

Gasification Advanced Technology Center on 40 acres situated at the south end of Lake DeSmet, which sits at an elevation above 4,000 feet. He said the center would be a pilot project with the University and GE Energy, using approximately 24 tons of coal a day. He said this site meets the criteria of the proposal request, and the coal is high in moisture which is good for this type of process. He commented that construction would take about two years with employment peaking at 300 persons, at an estimated cost of \$120 million. The completed center would employ approximately 15 full-time employees plus students and researchers.

Philippe Chino and Dick Webber of Forward Sheridan said that the City and County had decided that there was not an appropriate location within Sheridan County, mostly due to the elevation requirement and have elected to support the proposal to site the project in Johnson County. This proposal, and others from around the state, will be submitted to the University by February 9 for its consideration in siting this research and development facility. All proposals are to be held in confidence, with questions, if any, to be directed to the University.

RESOLUTION 09-01-06

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A PROPOSAL BY DESMET GASIFICATION, LLC FOR THE HIGH PLAINS GASIFICATION-ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CENTER

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, Sheridan County works diligently for the enhancement of economic prosperity of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Sheridan County Commission is aware of a coal gasification project by the University of Wyoming to be sited in Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, Sheridan County Commission believes such a facility would be of benefit to the citizens of this region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF SHERIDAN COUNTY, that the Board hereby strongly supports the proposal submitted by DeSmet Gasification, LLC in response to the Request for Proposals for Site Selection of the High Plains Gasification—Advanced Technology Center issued by the University of Wyoming.

DATED this twentieth day of January, 2009.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Sheridan County, Wyoming
/s/Robert L. Rolston, Chairman

Attest:
/s/Audrey Koltiska, County Clerk

STATE OF WYOMING)
)
COUNTY OF SHERIDAN)

On this 20th day of January, 2009 before me personally appeared Robert L. Rolston, being duly sworn, did say that he was Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, for Sheridan County, Wyoming and that this instrument was signed and sealed on behalf of said County by authority of said Board, and he acknowledged said instrument to be the free act and deed of said Board.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

/s/Carla I. Raymond, Notary Public

My Commission expires April 22, 2011

COUNTY AIRPORT

Airport Manager John Stopka reported that reconstruction of the general aviation apron and taxi-lane lying south of the existing County hangar was started about four years ago, being divided in two phases. Bids for Schedule II of the project will be opened in March and work should commence in May. The Board authorized the Chairman to submit the grant applications to the Wyoming Aeronautics Division for consideration of the project amount of \$2,227,800; of which the FAA would provide 95%, the State 3%, and Sheridan County 2%.

The Board approved the Chairman submitting a grant application to the Wyoming Aeronautics Division for air service marketing for 2009, in the amount of \$10,000. Mr. Stopka said the County match will be budgeted in FY 2009-10.

NORTH RIM RANCHETTES

Land Development Coordinator Robin DeBolt said that John E. Rice & Sons, Inc. dba the Wrench Ranch has submitted documentation indicating that the North Rim Ranchettes has been in existence and promoted for sale prior to July 1, 2008. Bill Pugh, Centennial Collaborative, representing the applicant, was present to answer questions. The Board accepted the provided evidence as being sufficient to qualify under Section 1.4., b.Exemptions., iii. of the Division of Land Rules.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

Administrative Director Renee Obermueller reported that when the ceiling on the second floor was exposed, it was evident that certain portions connecting to the historic courthouse were not properly sealed. Additional work is needed to provide for this fire protection and for electrical installation work for the new sound system. The Board approved Change Order 1 to the O'Dell Construction, Inc. contract for the additional work, in an increased amount of \$8,044, and approved an extended Substantial Completion date of February 15, 2009.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN AMBULANCE

Chairman Rolston asked Marc Ketcham for his company's report. Mr. Ketcham provided the Board with a report for December 2008 and a summary for 2008. He said there were 27 calls in December and outlined the response times by fire district. The summary indicates Rocky responded to 529 calls for the year. The average response time in the city was 8.4 minutes, and ranged from 16 minutes to Ranchester, to as high as 56 minutes to Arvada.

WEST BRUNDAGE LANE

Grants Administrator Mike Mackey reported that a small grant was available from the Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources for enhancements to the West Brundage Lane pathway system. The Board approved Resolution 09-01-003, authorizing the Chairman to submit an application for a Land and Water Conservation grant, in the amount of \$10,000.

TREASURER'S OFFICE

The Board removed this item from the Table for further consideration. As certain checks have been deemed uncollectible, the Board authorized the County Treasurer to cancel three non-sufficient fund checks, in the total amount of \$2,295.66.

WEED AND PEST CONTROL DISTRICT

Nomination petitions having been filed in proper form for the Board's consideration pursuant to W.S. 11-5-104(b)(d), the Board appointed the following as directors of the Weed and Pest Control District board. These are four year terms, running to January 2013 or until their successor is appointed and qualified.

Area 1: Mike Kane (new appointment)

Area 2: Clint Hoagland (reappointment)

Area 4: Brent Thompson (new appointment)

Area 5: Neil Brinkerhoff (reappointment)

SHERIDAN COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION

The Board reappointed Renee King to a second term on the Sheridan County Fair Association board. The five-year term runs to January 6, 2014.

ENERGY RESOURCES DISCUSSION

This discussion was postponed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Sheridan County, Wyoming

Attest:

Robert L. Rolston, Chairman

Audrey Koltiska, County Clerk